are being supplied to 41 surveillance centres and 28 zonal Blood Testing Centres.

Post retirement medical facilities to employees of NTPC

*98. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has formulated a contributory scheme for post retirement medical facilities;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the same is being made applicable to those employees only who retired from the service of the NTPC on or after the 1st January, 1986;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for fixing the date; and

(d) what is the total number of employees of NTPC who retired from NTPC before the 1st January, 1986 and are being denied the benefit of the new scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Board of Directors of the Corporation while approving the scheme resolved that the scheme would be effective from 1.1.1986, the date from which gratuity ceiling is enhanced by the Government.

(d) Seventy five employees in various categories retired before 1.1.1986 who may not be fulfilling the eligibility criterion.

Setting up of national commission on Bhopal gas tragedy

*99. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several organisations working among the Bhopal gas victims have demanded the setting up of a National Commission on Bhopal gas tragedy for proper implementation of the action plan for mitigating the suffering of the disaster victims; and

(b) if so, what is the reactions of the Central Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Government are aware that certain organisation of Bhopal Gas Victims have demanded the setting up of a National Commission on Bhopal and have taken note of the suggestions.

Proposal for increased utilisation of gas for industrial purposes in Tripura

*100. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 600 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Tripura and Bangladesh have common gas zone and Bangladesh is about to commence exploration of gas;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to increase the quantum of utilisation of gas by using the same for industrial purpose; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir. The gas discoveries made so far in Tripura and Bangladesh are in different stratigraphic levels and have no common gas zone between them.

(b) and (c) Natural gas is being to the following gas based power projects in the State of Tripura:—

(i) Baramura Power Plant — 0.13 MMCMD

(ii) Rokhia Power Plant — 0.05 MMCMD